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## **ATTITUDE OF PREGNANT WOMEN AND HEALTH CARE TEAM MEMBERS TOWARD NORMAL DELIVERY VS CESAREAN SECTION**

**F. Mostafazadeh**<sup>1</sup>, M. Mashoufi<sup>2</sup>, M. Rostamnejad<sup>2</sup>, M. Karimollahi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ardabil Medical Sciences University, Nursing and Midwifery, Ardabil, Iran, Islamic Republic of; <sup>2</sup> Ardabil Medical Sciences University, Ardabil, Iran, Islamic Republic of

**Objectives:** Cesarean section (CS) has increased in rate during the past years. Due to postoperative complications, long recovery time and high costs of surgery; normal delivery is recommended as a routine method. Regarding the increase in the number of CS and its acceptability on the part of the public, it seems that women's as well as health personnels' attitudes play an effective role in selecting the termination method. The aim of this study was to evaluate and compare pregnant women's and health personnels' attitude toward termination procedures.

**Methods:** This was a descriptive and comparative study. 84 health personnels and 300 pregnant women who referred to Ardabil health centers in 2002 were selected. These subjects' attitudes were collected through Likert scale and the collected data were analyzed by SPSS, using t-test.

**Results:** The findings showed that 30.1% of women and 50% of health personnels had positive attitudes towards normal delivery. The findings also indicated that there was a significant difference between pregnant women and health personnels in their attitudes toward normal delivery and cesarean ( $p=0.001$ ).

**Conclusions:** The findings showed that 30.1% of women and 50% of health care team members had positive attitudes towards normal delivery. The findings also indicated that there was a significant difference between pregnant women and health care team members in their attitudes toward normal delivery and cesarean ( $p=0.001$ ).

**Keywords:** Normal Delivery, Cesarean Section, Attitude, Health care team, Pregnant Women.